

Place Value and the United States Postal Service

Foundations of Algebra

United States Postal Service (USPS)



Brainstorming

Go to www.usps.com.

List 5 Ways the Post Office uses
numbers.

What do you think?

- 1.
 - Signs with postal rates (prices for stamps, Priority Mail, extra services, etc.)
- 2.
 - Mailing supplies (boxes, envelopes, padded envelopes, tubes, etc.)
- 3.
 - Stamps for collectors
- 4.
 - Forms for different types of mailing (certified mail, registered mail, etc.)
- 5.
 - Things on a letter (street numbers, apartment numbers, zip codes)

A typical letter



- A letter contains many numbers:
 - Street Numbers
 - House Numbers
 - Apartment Numbers
 - Zip Codes

What do you need to know about numbers?

- In order to correctly identify a number, we need to be able to **read** the number.
- This includes knowing about the **place value** of each digit in the number.
- What is place value?
 - **Place value** is the value of where the digit is in the number, such as units, tens, hundreds, etc.

Place Value Chart

Hundred-billions	
Ten-billions	
Billions	
Hundred-millions	
Ten-millions	
Millions	
Hundred-thousands	
Ten-thousands	
Thousands	
Hundreds	
Tens	
Ones	

- Each set of three numbers is called a **period** (this is also where the commas go).
- Where does the decimal point go? All the way to the right.

What about some Zip Codes?

Hundred-billions	
Ten-billions	
Billions	
Hundred-millions	
Ten-millions	
Millions	
Hundred-thousands	
Ten-thousands	
Thousands	
Hundreds	
Tens	
Ones	

- ☼ Orefield? Schnecksville? Slatington? Allentown? Hollywood?
- ☼ 18069 – Eighteen Thousand and Sixty Nine

Try some other numbers.

	Hundred-billions
	Ten-billions
	Billions
	Hundred-millions
	Ten-millions
	Millions
	Hundred-thousands
	Ten-thousands
	Thousands
	Hundreds
	Tens
	Ones

● 123980

● 8023493

● 300400500600

● 123,980

● 8,023,493

● 300,400,500,600

Answers

⦿ 123,980

⦿ 8,023,493

⦿ 300,400,500,600

⦿ One Hundred Twenty
Three Thousand Nine
Hundred and Eighty

⦿ Eight Million Twenty
Three Thousand Four
Hundred and Ninety Three

⦿ Three Hundred Billion
Four Hundred Million Five
Hundred Thousand and
Six Hundred

What about Decimals?

Hundred Billions		Hundred Millions		Hundred Thousands		Hundreds		Tenths
Ten Billions		Ten Millions		Ten Thousands		Tens		Hundredths
Billions		Millions		Thousands		Ones		Thousandths
								Ten Thousandths
								Hundred Thousandths

- Where is the decimal point? **To the right of the Ones!**
- We continue to in the other direction using the same words with a **“ths”** on the end.

Try this one!

2	Hundred Billions
1	Ten Billions
0	Billions
,	
9	Hundred Millions
8	Ten Millions
7	Millions
,	
6	Hundred Thousands
5	Ten Thousands
4	Thousands
,	
3	Hundreds
2	Tens
1	Ones
.	
2	Tenths
3	Hundredths
4	Thousandths
5	Ten Thousandths
6	Hundred Thousandths

2 1 0 , 9 8 7 , 6 5 4 , 3 2 1 . 2 3 4 5 6

This Chart shows the place value of the number 210,987,654,321.23456

This is how you say it.

Two hundred ten billion, nine hundred eighty seven million, six hundred fifty four thousand, three hundred twenty one, and twenty three thousand four hundred fifty six hundred thousandths.

What about these?

⦿ 4,002.8

⦿ 612.47

⦿ 31,007.309

Read this paragraph about the United States Postal Service and translate the following numbers.

- In 2011, the United States Postal Service employed a total of 551,570 people around the continental United States. It took 213,881 trucks to deliver more than 168,000,000,000 pieces of mail that year. That mail was sorted at the 35,756 post offices around the country. Pennsylvania has a total of 371 post offices in a total of 67 counties.